

The Road to a Standard for Flushability October 2017 Update

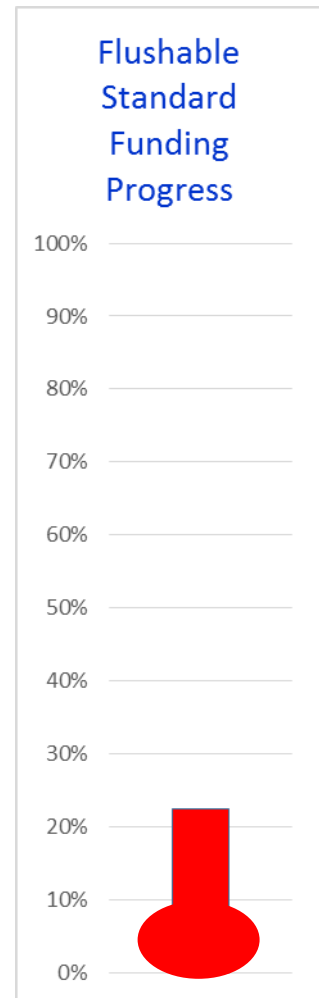
On July 24, 2017, the International Water Services Flushability Group (IWSFG) released their draft flushability standards for public comment. Much work led up to this point and there is much more work ahead of us.

Together, MESUG (Municipal Enforcement Sewer Use Group) and CWWA (Canadian Water and Wastewater Association) made an appeal to Canadian municipalities to contribute to a fund to support our efforts. Thus far we have raised \$17,750.00 to assist with the development of a Standard for Flushability. With another \$16,000 on its way in November 2017 we will be at a total of **\$33,750 or 22.5 % of our goal of \$150,000**, the quoted cost to develop a CSA or CGSB standard (2012 and 2014, respectively).

CWWA, MESUG and IWSFG want to thank those who have contributed to this endeavour that affects all of us. Please consider having your community contribute. This is a small investment to address \$millions/billions in damages nationally.

Contributing Organizations

Alberta Capital Region Wastewater Commission
 Town of Beaumont, Alberta
 City of Brantford, Ontario
 Cape Breton Regional Municipality, Nova Scotia
 Town of Cobourg, Ontario
 City of Fredericton, New Brunswick
 Halifax Water, Nova Scotia
 City of London, Ontario
 City of Nanaimo, British Columbia
 Regional District of Nanaimo, British Columbia
 City of St. Albert, Alberta
 Metro Vancouver



Suggested donation levels are:

Utility members (Population served)	Suggested Donation level
> 1 million	\$10,000
> 500,000 to 1 million	\$5,000
> 100,000 to 500,000	\$1,000
up to 100,000	\$500
Associate Members	
Private sector	\$1,000

Payments are to be made to the Canadian Water and Wastewater Association with a note to direct funds to flushable standard campaign.

Canadian Water and Wastewater Association
1010 Polytek Street Unit 11
Ottawa, ON, K1J 9H9

Contact Account Receivable Clerk Louisa Spina for payment details, electronic banking, invoices and receipts.

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Immediate (Short Term) Expenses:

- 1.) Research and final development of ‘flushable’ test methods;
- 2.) Retention of formally qualified 3rd party laboratories to confirm reliability of the test methods and confirmation of the wastewater approved pass/fail criteria; and
- 3.) Retention of qualified Fibre Analysis testing laboratories to analyze the materials used in ‘flushable’ products that do not biodegrade and contribute to microfiber issues in the aquatic environment.

Long Term Expenses:

- 1.) The expense to move the adoption of the standard into enforceable regulation.

The Path behind us and the Path ahead of us: A Timeline

March 2012	MESUG started investigating the legislation behind the labelling of Flushable products and discovered that there was none
August 2012	Letters sent to manufacturers of flushable products regarding flushable products
2012 – 2013	CSA Standard pursued but not enough pledges were received to make it possible
February 2013	CSA and MESUG met with INDA and manufacturer representatives to discuss possibility of collaborating on a CSA standard for flushable products. Manufacturing representatives were not amenable to a standard
November 2013	Window on Ottawa – initial discussions regarding the possibility of an ISO Standard
July 2014	Work on the ISO Technical Specification for Flushable products begins
Mar - Aug 2016	Wastewater representatives (CWWA, NACWA, WEF ...) and INDA collaborate on a new “Code of Practice” for flushable product manufacturers.
December 2016	ISO work on the ISO TS halted due to a challenge from TC6 WG27
February 2017	Formation of IWSFG – work begins on PAS (Publicly Available Standard) documents
June 2017	CWWA call for funding and logo support for a standard on Flushability
July 2017	PAS documents released for public comment
September 2017	Notice placed in FCM Voice newsletter regarding work towards a standard for Flushability
September 2017	Public comment period on PAS documents ends
September 2017	IWSFG members meet in Madrid, Spain to review public comments
October 2017	Second draft of PAS documents being prepared taking into consideration public comments from first draft
October 2017	Development of a logo for a truly flushable product. Graphic designer contacted. Input requested by Barry Orr, MESUG spokesperson
October 2017	Consideration of sites and laboratories to validate the test methods (Ryerson University contacted and possibility of a lab in Metro Vancouver)
October 2017	Further review of PAS documents test methods by IWSFG experts in Canada, United States, Spain, New Zealand, Japan and Australia

Next Steps

2017?	Release of second draft of PAS documents for public comment
2017 – 2018	Continue Fund Raising efforts across Canada
March 2018	IWSFG Meeting in London, England to finalize PAS documents
2018	Obtain quotes from standardization organizations to develop the standard
2018 - 2019	Contact Members of Parliament and Politicians to address issue of flushable products and assist with development of the future standard into legislation